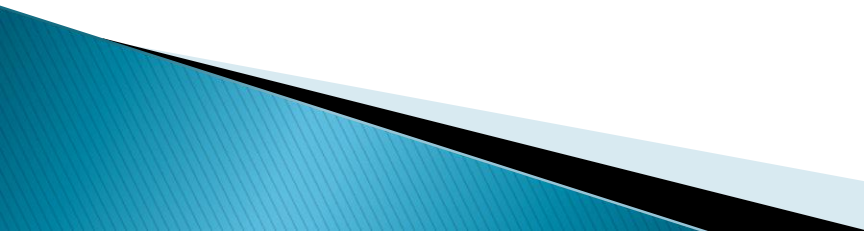


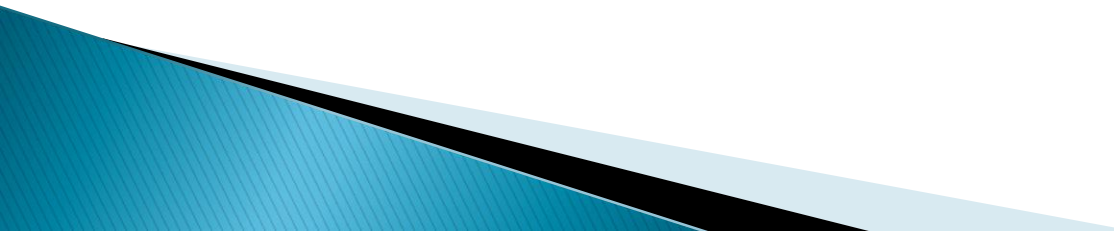
Schizophrenia

“The cancer of mental illness”

Agenda

- ▶ KWL Chart and Hearing Voices Simulations
 - ▶ De-brief on activity
 - ▶ What is schizophrenia?
 - ▶ Recognition of Schizophrenia
 - ▶ Symptoms
 - ▶ Anderson Cooper Simulation
 - ▶ Diagnosis and Treatment
 - ▶ Causes
 - ▶ Myths about Schizophrenia
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Agenda

- ▶ Educational Implications
 - ▶ Instructional Strategies
 - ▶ Where to get help
 - ▶ Students Care!
 - ▶ Resources
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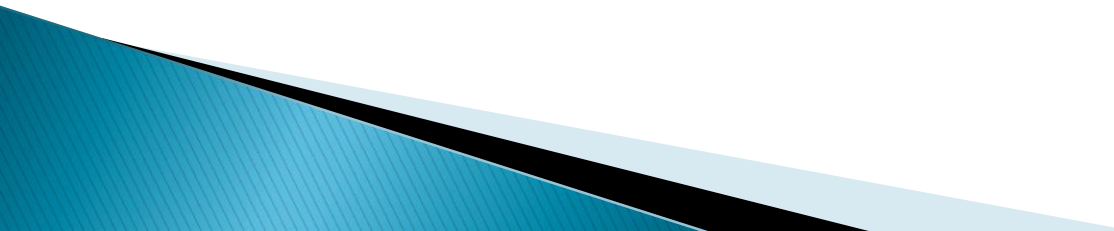
KWL Chart and Hearing Voices

- ▶ Complete the KWL Chart while listening to the Hearing Voices Simulation
- ▶ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0vvU-Ajwbok>

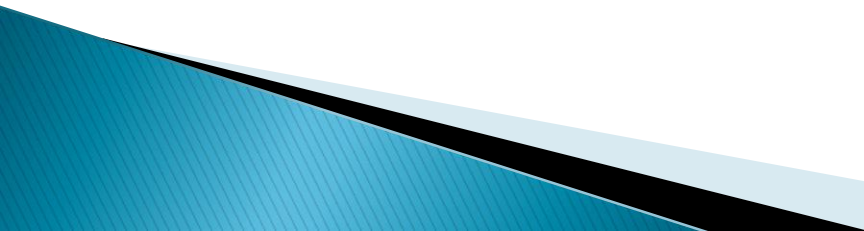
KWL CHART

What I KNOW	What I WANT to know	What I LEARNED

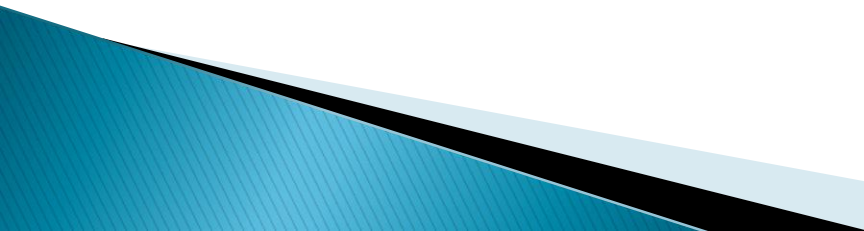
De-brief

- ▶ How did you feel during this activity?
 - ▶ How difficult was it to concentrate?
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What is Schizophrenia?

- ▶ Schizophrenia is a mental illness which affects the way you think and the symptoms may effect how you cope with day to day life.
 - ▶ Schizophrenia is a common illness. About one in a hundred people will develop schizophrenia. It can develop during young adulthood.
 - ▶ It is rare in children less than 10 years of age and has its peak age of onset between the ages of 16 and 25.
 - ▶ This disorder affects about 1 percent of the population, and thus middle and high school teachers will likely see children who are in the early stages of the illness.
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Recognition of Schizophrenia

- ▶ Schizophrenia can be difficult to recognize in its early phases, and the symptoms often are blurred with other psychiatric disorders.
 - ▶ Schizophrenia usually comes on gradually and teachers are often the first to notice the early signs.
 - ▶ The early signs are usually non-specific. For example, students who once enjoyed friendships with classmates may seem to withdraw into a world of their own. They may say things that don't make sense and talk about strange fears and ideas.
 - ▶ Students may also show a gradual decline in their cognitive abilities and struggle more with their academic work.
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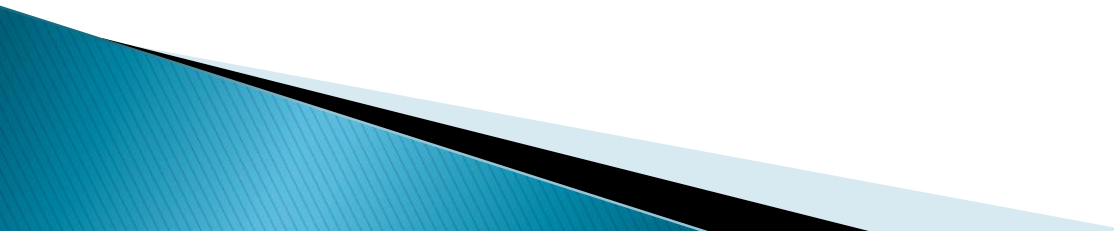
Symptoms and Behaviours

- ▶ Confused thinking (for example, confusing what happens on television with reality) □
- ▶ Vivid and bizarre thoughts and ideas □
- ▶ Hallucinations – Hearing, seeing, feeling, or smelling things that are not real or present □
- ▶ Delusions □ Having beliefs that are fixed and false (i.e., believing that aliens are out to kill them because of information that they have) □
- ▶ Severe anxiety and fearfulness □
- ▶ Extreme moodiness □
- ▶ Severe problems in making and keeping friends □
- ▶ Feelings that people are hostile and “out to get them” □
- ▶ Odd behavior, including behavior resembling that of a younger child □
- ▶ Disorganized speech □
- ▶ Lack of motivation

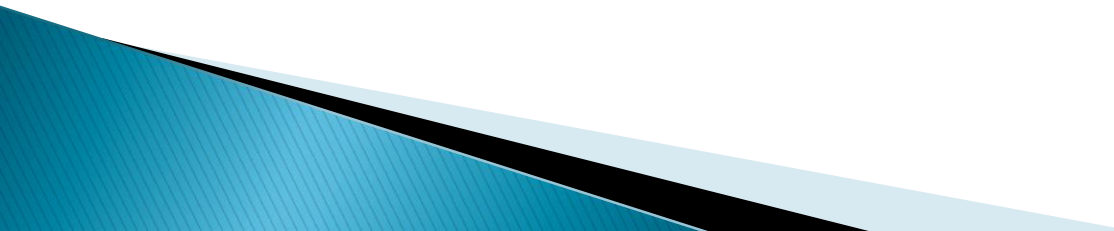
Simulation

- ▶ Watch Anderson Cooper participate in a schizophrenia simulation exercise.
- ▶ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yL9UJVtgPZY>

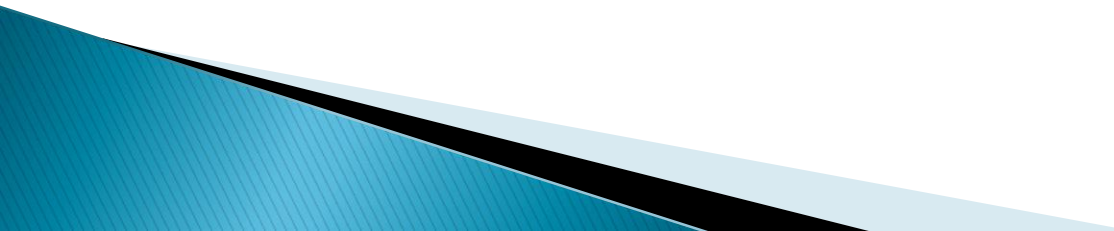
Diagnosis and Treatment

- ▶ There are no blood tests or scans that can prove if you have schizophrenia. You can only be diagnosed by a psychiatrist who will do a full psychiatric assessment.
 - ▶ About 50 percent of people with schizophrenia will attempt suicide; 10 to 15 percent will succeed.
 - ▶ Young people with this disease are usually treated with a combination of medication and individual and family therapy.
 - ▶ Medications can be very helpful for treating the hallucinations, delusions, and difficulties in organizing thoughts.
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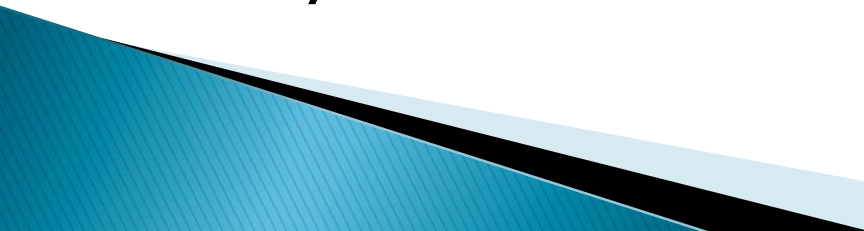
Cause of Schizophrenia

- ▶ The cause of schizophrenia is not known, although it is believed to be a combination of genetic and environmental factors.
 - ▶ The exact environmental factors that contribute to the development of schizophrenia are also not known.
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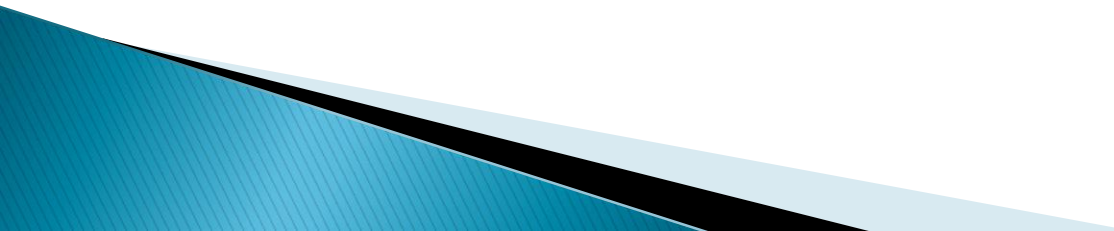
Myths about Schizophrenia

- ▶ **‘Schizophrenia means someone has a split personality’**
 - ▶ This is not the case.
 - ▶ The mistake may come from the fact that the name 'schizophrenia' comes from two Greek words meaning 'split' and 'mind'.
 - ▶ Split personality is a completely different illness than schizophrenia.
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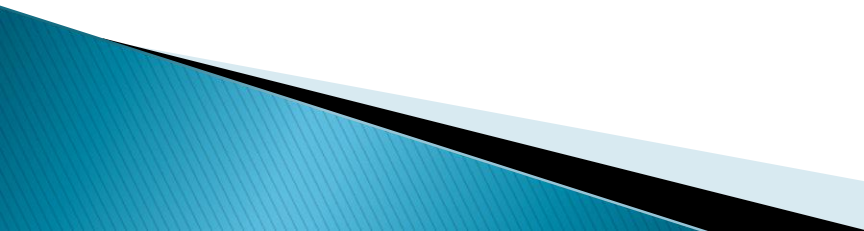
‘Schizophrenia causes people to be Violent’

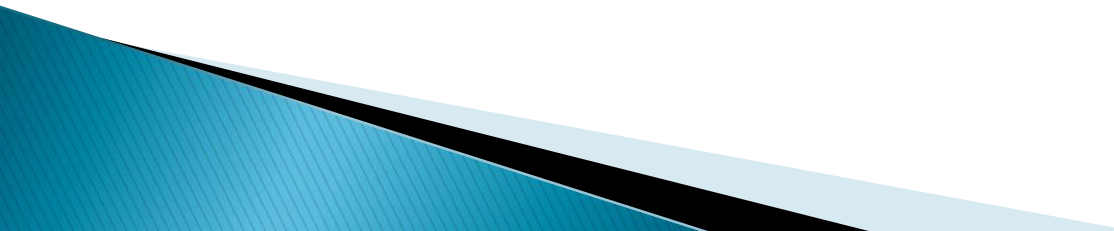
- ▶ People with a diagnosis of schizophrenia are more likely to be a danger to themselves than other people.
 - ▶ Unfortunately some people with the illness may become violent because of delusional beliefs or the use of drugs or alcohol.
 - ▶ Only a small minority of people with the illness may become violent, much in the same way as a small minority of the general public may become violent.
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Educational Implications

- ▶ Difficulty concentrating or paying attention
 - ▶ Their behavior and performance may fluctuate from day to day
 - ▶ Likely to exhibit thought problems or physical complaints
 - ▶ May act out or become withdrawn
 - ▶ Sometimes they may show little or no emotional reaction; at other times, their emotional responses may be inappropriate for the situation
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Instructional Strategies and Accommodations

- ▶ Reduce stress by going slowly when introducing new situations □
 - ▶ Help students set realistic goals for academic achievement and extra-curricular activities □
 - ▶ Obtaining educational and cognitive testing can be helpful in determining if the student has specific strengths that can be capitalized upon to enhance learning □
 - ▶ Establish regular meetings with the family for feedback on health and progress □
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- ▶ Because the disorder is so complex and often debilitating, it will be necessary to meet with the family, with mental health providers, and with the medical professionals who are treating the student
 - ▶ These individuals can provide the information you will need to understand the student's behaviors, the effects of the psychotropic medication and how to develop a learning environment□
 - ▶ Often it is helpful to have a "Team Meeting" to discuss the various aspects of the child's education and development
 - ▶ Encourage other students to be kind and to extend their friendship
 - ▶ Classroom inclusion focus
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Where to get help

[Schizophrenia Society of Ontario](#)

They will connect you to local support and resources as needed.

Tel: (416) 449-6830

Toll Free in ON: 1-800-449-6367

E-mail: sso@schizophrenia.on.ca



Students Care!

- ▶ We can make a difference! Let's learn from our students who are already trying to learn about mental illness and accept those who struggle into their school communities!
- ▶ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GZknBpON4Kg>

Resources

- ▶ <file:///C:/Users/Heather/Downloads/Schizophrenia%20%20Factsheet.pdf>
- ▶ <http://www.schoolmentalhealth.org/Resources/Educ/MHClassroomFactSheet.pdf>
- ▶ http://www.camh.ca/en/hospital/health_information/a_z_mental_health_and_addiction_information/schizophrenia/Pages/schizophrenia_mhfs.aspx